

Harbor Island. (Napam P.O.)

Bahamas June 11th 1874

My Dear Mr Garrison,

Mr Sumner, who for several years has been my Colleague, leaves here to day in the Rosalie Schomer, on his way to England. I send by him a half barrel of June apples directed to you, to be delivered to the Care of your son Wendell, at the Office of the Station. You will find about three dozen in the barrel; and if it will be convenient to you, I should be glad if half a dozen each could be sent to my dear and respected friends Mr Phillips and Mr Buffum. I have been away from home during the June-apple season, and only returned last week, when the season was drawing to a close. Otherwise I should have been able to send you some finer specimens. But the best have been already cut and shipped.

Most of my time since I arrived from England has been occupied by a visit to our Mission Stations in Fook's Islands and San Domingo; which I paid in compliance with the wishes of our Mission House authorities. It was a long voyage, and the schooner in which I travelled was only seventeen tons. But the worst of it was that she was very leaky, and could only be kept afloat for some days by the almost incessant use of the pump. Through a kind Providence I have arrived safely at home again -

I am thankful to say that my family are all well. Alicia has undertaken the education of two girls. Emily has a goodly number of music pupils; and Willie is pursuing his studies with a view to future usefulness in the Christian Ministry. They all cherish, as I do myself, the most pleasant memories of the time spent in your pleasant home, and the great kindness experienced there.

I regretted to learn, when in San Domingo, that the American settlement there, in the Bay of Samana, was to be abandoned. I expected that that undertaking would have given an impulse to the development of the resources of that large and beautiful and fruitful island; and that it would have exercised a powerful influence in checking and preventing the sanguinary and oft-recurring revolutions which have been so fatal to every thing like healthy proper folk in San Domingo and Haiti. These I fear will go on, especially in Haiti, until America, or some European power, shall interpose to establish a better state of things, and prevent the frequent effusion of blood which takes place there. The more intelligent people whom I conversed with, seem to have confidence in the present President, who has proclaimed liberty of religion, ^{worship,} and liberty of the press and of speech. Our Indian premises have remained in ruins for ten years, when they were destroyed by the Spaniards, in the unprincipled, but happily-unsuccessful,

attempt which they made to gain possession
of San Domingo, some ten years ago. The whole
town of Puerto Plata was destroyed, and not a
solitary house left standing by the invaders. It
has since been largely rebuilt; but none other
than wooden erections are to be seen.

Please present our very kind
regards to Mr Garrison, and all the other
members of the family who are near to
you,

I am,

Very Dear Mr. Garrison,
Yours with much respect
and love.

Henry Polkey-